

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/982,179

Examiner

Rhonda Murphy

Applicant(s)

DOSKOW ET AL.

Art Unit

2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the communication filed on 1/18/01.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 15-21 and 27-28 (renumbered 1-9).
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 1/29/02
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Chau Nguyen
CHAU NGUYEN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 1-14 and 22-26, are drawn to a method of processing inter-switch call control data including switches interconnected by a trunk group, classified in class 370, subclass 522.
 - II. Claims 15-21 and 27-28, are drawn to a method of processing a call received on a protected network, classified in class 370, subclass 352.
 - III. Claims 29-30, are drawn to a method of validating a call setup message, classified in class 379, subclass 229.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

2. Inventions I, II and III are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different designs, modes of operation, and effects (MPEP § 802.01 and § 806.06). In the instant case, the different inventions I (claims 1-14 and 22-26) is directed to a method of processing inter-switch call control data including switches interconnected by a trunk group; while invention II (claims 15-21 and 27-28) is directed to a method of processing a call received on a protected network, and invention III (claims 29-30) is directed to a method of validating a call setup message. Furthermore, each group does not require the subject matter of the other group, in order to be patentable.

3. Because these inventions are independent or distinct for the reasons given above and the inventions require a different field of search (see MPEP § 808.02), restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.
4. During a telephone conversation with Michael Strauss on 6/26/06 a provisional election was made without traverse to prosecute the invention of Group II, claims 15-21 and 27-28. Affirmation of this election must be made by applicant in replying to this Office action. Claims 1-14, 22-26 and 29-30 are withdrawn from further consideration by the examiner, 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a non-elected invention.
5. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

6. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Michael Strauss on 6/26/06.

The application has been amended as follows:

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In claim 15, line 6, "IAM" has been replaced with --Initial Address Message (IAM)--

In claim 15, line 13, "ACM" has been replaced with --Address Complete Message (ACM)--

In claim 27, line 4, "configured to communicate" has been replaced with --communicating--

In claim 27, line 8, "configured to" has been deleted.

In claim 27, line 9, "receive" has been replaced with --receiving--

In claim 27, line 10, "select" has been replaced with --selecting--

In claim 27, line 10, "a trunk" has been deleted.

In claim 27, line 11, "transmit" has been replaced with --transmitting--

In claim 27, line 13, "configured to" has been deleted.

In claim 27, line 14, "decode" has been replaced with --decoding--

In claim 27, line 14, "validate" has been replaced with --validating--

In claim 27, line 15, "update" has been replaced with --updating--

In claim 27, line 16, "generate" has been replaced with --generating--

In claim 27, line 16, "transmit" has been replaced with --transmitting--

In claim 27, line 18, "configured to" has been deleted.

In claim 27, line 19, "validate" has been replaced with --validating--

In claim 27, line 20, "return" has been replaced with --returning--

Claims 1-14, 22-26 and 29-30 have been canceled.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 15, prior art fails to particularly disclose or suggest selecting a trunk connecting the interconnecting switch with a remote switch; transmitting a first IAM from the interconnecting switch to a gatekeeper platform; decoding the first IAM at the gatekeeper platform; validating the first IAM at the gatekeeper platform; updating a call state of the trunk; generating a second IAM containing call information included in said first IAM; transmitting said second IAM from the gatekeeper platform to the remote switch; validating the call at the remote switch based on the second IAM; returning a first ACM from the remote switch to the gatekeeper platform; validating the first ACM; and returning a second ACM from the gatekeeper platform to the interconnecting switch.

Regarding claim 27, prior art fails to particularly disclose or suggest a signaling network connecting said switches and said gatekeeper platform, said interconnecting switch (i) receiving a call to a subscriber on the network, (ii) selecting a trunk from said trunk group, and (iii) transmitting a first IAM to said gatekeeper platform on said signaling network, said gatekeeper platform (i) decoding and validating the first IAM, (ii) updating a call state of the trunk, and (iii) generating and transmitting to the remote switch on said signaling network a second IAM containing call information included in said first IAM, said remote switch (i) validating the call based on the second IAM, and (ii) returning a first ACM from the remote switch to the gatekeeper platform.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rhonda Murphy whose telephone number is (571) 272-3185. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:00 - 4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chau Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-3126. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Rhonda Murphy
Examiner
Art Unit 2616

RM